(c) No, Sir.

(d) The plot has now been included in the ensuing auction programme.

Officer of Plot to the Maharashtra Government in Lieu of Sirmur Plot

2628. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have offered a plot at Shrinivaspuri in lieu of the Sirmur plot, to the Maharashtra Government and whether due to inconvenience and unsuitability, the Maharashtra Government has refused the offer;

(b) if so, whether Government are going to vacate the Sirmur plot and hand over the same to the Maharashtra Government;

(c) if so, by when it would be executed; and

(d) if not, the alternative steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir. 1.5 acres land in Srinivaspuri area in lieu of Sirmur Plot was offered to the Government of Maharashtra. The Government of Maharashtra represented that they were not interested in 1.5 acres land in Srinivaspuri area.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply at (b) above.

(d) Further steps in this regard will be taken in consultation with the Government of Maharashtra.

Revision of Population Limit of towns

2629. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 124 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 1997 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the population limit of the towns to be considered under AUWSP has been increased from 20,000 to 1,00,000;

(b) if so, the detailed thereof; and

(c) what is Government's decision regarding Maharashtra Government's demand of increasing the quantity of water being supplied in urban areas from 70 lpcd to 100 lpcd?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) It has been clarified in the reply sent to the Maharashtra Government that the present norm of 70 lpcd is considered adequate for towns having population upto 1,00,000 as these towns do not generally in large industrial and institutional requirements of water.

Statue on Willingdon Crescent

2630. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the beautiful group statue on Willingdon Crescent Sardar Patel Road junction in New Delhi is an approximate representation of Dandi March;

(b) whether it is a fact that a pix of this art sculpture has been printed on Rs. 500-notes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a Churchman with a prominent Cross has been prominently put there, though there was no such personage in Dandi March or any other March; and

(d) why a Mulla and a Pandit and Sikh Granthi have not been shown there on the principle of Secularism, assuming it is not a Dandi March?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Though the Group Statue on Willingdon Crescent-Sardar Patel Road Junction in New Delhi is popularly identified with Dandi March, the Statue was installed in memory of the countless Indians who, generation after generation struggled and sacrificed against foreign rule.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A Mullah, a Pandit and a Sikh Granthi have also been shown in the Group Statue.

Failure of Prime Minister's integrated Urban Poverty eradication programme

2631. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL:

SHRI O. P. KOHLI:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Programme has failed to take off;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry does not have even the basic information regarding the programme, so far;

(c) what progress, if any, has been made so far under the scheme and, how much amount of money has already been spent till date; and

(d) the reasons for the tardy gress in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF URBAN FAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR VENKATESWARLU): (a) No. The Prime Minister's Integrated Poverty Eradication Prog (PMI UPEP) was launched in ember 1995 to address the economic and physical dimensions of poverty in urban agglomerations population between 50,000 to 1,0 as per 1991 census and Hill Dis Towns of North-East/Hilly States population less than 1,00,000 as 1991 census, with a multi-pronged tegrated strategy. Five million poor targetted to benefit under programme during the five year gramme period (1995-96 to 2000).

Funds to most of the States 1995-96 were released in the quarter of the year. The UPEP is a scheme with multi-dim sional facets and requires exten grassroot spadework in the form activities such as House-to-hou Survey, Spatial mapping, prepa rion of Project Reports, formation CBOs etc. to ensure its effective plementation.

(b) to (d) The scheme is mo tored regularly by this Minis through Regional review Meetin the Inter-Ministerial Converge forum and periodical reports etc As per the reports received from State Government, physical achie ments under the programme are closed at Statement (*See* below The amount released to States s the inception of Programme is under:—

Year	Central Share relea
1995-96	105.80
1996-97	70.60
1997-98	31.8977 (till date)